Numismatic Literary Guild

NUMISMATIC
NEWSLETTER

MAY , 1968

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POST OFFICE BOX 10039
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WELCOME ABOARD

We extend our sincere thanks for acceptance of the Numismatic Literary Guild. A few of the memorable quotes received were..."It's about time we writers got together."... "O.K. The drinks are on me at the next convention if you can get enough people to act!" "Sounds like a great idea; I'm with you."..."You are to be commended for your worthwhile project."..."At last, a source for coin photos and, I hope, hard-to-locate information."......

Other congratulatory responses were received with many offers to help. This, of course, is the most important part of all. Guild members should consider the organization their own. You will be the people who select articles worthy of commendation and plant the ideas which will make N.L.G. a success. We welcome your suggestions.

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NUMISMATIC LITERARY GUILD ACCEPTS FIRST MEMBERS

Formed only a few short months ago, the N.L.G. received its first completed application forms this month and has now the nucleus of its concept well under way.

Sprouting from a mutual inspiration received by Ed McClung, Lee Martin, Dottie Dow, and Maurice Gould, the organization is finally taking its first giant strides. The steps will ultimately lead to an area where numismatic writers, publishers, editors and curators can find common grounds to express their views, needs and mutually benefit others with like interests.

The primary focus of N.L.G. will be to acknowledge exceptional numismatic efforts by recognition in the form of certificates and trophies. It is hoped that the awards will be the numismatic profession's answer to the Oscars and Emmys of other media.

In addition to the basic concept, N.L.G. is currently expanding a negative file to assist writers who need a quick photo source. Many photos are currently available but the full function will be enlarged in the future.

No charge for the photos will be involved unless the needs are extensive and in that event, costs of producing such prints will be the fee.

A monthly newsletter will be issued without charge to all members. In this publication we will feature members' viewpoints, editors' needs, timely hints, research source data and any other information that Guild members would like to see included.

Although the aims of the Guild were outlined in an informal letter, some members would like to see clarification of several points. Funding procedures follow:

The Guild is a non-profit organization. No fees will be asked from members. The Guild will be self-supporting by the following...Members are asked to forward any original articles, stories, etc. that have been printed. Your corrections, screwls, deletions, etc. will only add to the interest of the item. Members will retain all interest in the article and the publisher will maintain his copyright. The material will be auctioned to private collectors who will have only the right to display but NOT any publication rights. To add interest to the

article, a current autograph should be placed near the title page and dated.

The submission of such items for resale by the Guild is purely voluntary and is not a prerequisite for membership.

Should added income be required for Guild survival, used coin magazines and books will be sold. We feel this method of earning income is superior to taxing our members.

Your thoughts on this and any of our activities will be appreciated.

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MEET YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS.....

The following list is not complete, but it does represent the first arrivals in our organization. To eliminate numerical problems, all Guild members will be listed alphabetically. Numbers are not issued but the Charter membership will be noted on all lifetime cards issued before July 19th, 1968 or membership of 50 -- whichever is first.

Clement Bailey	Cale B. Jarvis
Thomas Becker	Raymond Manville
Blakesley	James Miller
D. David Bowers	Lee Martin
Kenneth Bressett	Ed McClung
Dottie Dow	Clifford Mishler
Jack Friedberg	John S. Queen
Melvin Fuld	Neil Shafer
Mort Goodman	Arlie Slabaugh
Maurice Gould	Elvira Clain-Stefanelli
Henry Grunthal	Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli
Lee Hewitt	Mathew J. van derVoort
Barbara Hyde	Holland Wallace
Richard Hyde	Richard S. Yeoman

The above listing is a partial one with numerous Guild applicants still to be voted upon by the membership committee and others having their applications still being processed.

Lifetime cards are being prepared for others. As of this date, March 31, 1968, thirty-five numismatists have indicated they will be N.L.G. members.

The number is not large and, in all honesty, the Guild is prepared to "Think Small".

An initial enrollment of fifty members will be the target to be attained before our first meeting during the A.N.A. convention. The gathering of available Guild members will be an informal one, not scheduled by the A.N.A., but because of the presence of so many of our group, an ideal time to make contacts.

In addition to the fifty regular members each N.L.G. Lifetime member may nominate someone of the immediate family as an associate member. Associate membership is renewable yearly but members retain privileges without application unless regular member asks to have such associate member deleted from Guild roster.

Additional Guild members may be included in future listings. Such applicants to be formed from one-a-year invitation from Lifetime members to new applicants. By this method it is anticipated that a maximum of 100 members will comprise the initial Guild representation.

Limitation is urged so that better servicing of membership will be accomplished.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC SOURCES...

One of the finest books for any writer is the "Picture Unlimited" source of pictorial illustration catalogue. The soft cover book lists 343 places where photographs may be obtained to "pep" up your articles.

A typical listing details the Library of Congress.

Collection--About 4 million items.
Subjects--Wide range. (Exception: science, technology, medicine, and current news).
Dates--15th - 20th Century.
Rights--Subject to copyright if any and donor restrictions.
Fees--No reproduction fee. Photocopy fee range from 65¢ to $2.65. Photocopies available, etc.

A general listing of types of subjects follows but the range of listing goes beyond anything previously available at the minimum cost of $5 for the book.

The book is published by PTN Publishing Company, 41 East 28th St., New York, N.Y. 10016. NOTE: Preceding plug is not a commercial listing but an effort to acquaint our members with items that may assist them in preparation of their material.

A FEW TIPS FROM WRITERS....

A must for every writer who uses the coins of other nations as his source, is the compact "Traveler's Instant Money Converter". The booklet retails for $1.00 in almost any book store and details the where, what and how in comparison to U.S. coins. It also lists local rulings and available denominations.

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When conducting an interview, always use one final question, "Have I missed asking you something that you would like to tell our readers?"

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Many writers place bits of misinformation in their articles so they can trace the rewritings of their research. Always check your source in depth to avoid this pitfall.

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"WORLD COINS" in the "WRITER"

The "Writer" is a monthly publication devoted to the wide world of using a typewriter for commercial and aesthetic purposes.

The March, 1968 issue has an item of interest to Guild members.

World Coins, P. O. Box 150
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Editor RUSSELL RULAU can use articles of 1,500 to 8,000 words with photos or drawings on numismatics of the world, excluding the U.S. and Canada. Articles must be based on original research by the author or author's source reference. Book-length manuscripts are also considered. Authors should query first. The magazine pays 2¢ per word on publication.

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THE WRITER"S LIBRARY

This newsletter will be used as an alert for Guild members to review exceptional books -- also, occasionally, literature to avoid.

If you have any material not reviewed in coin publications, please forward your opinions for newsletter consideration. Editorial caution will be exercised as lightly as possible.

One book every library should include is "A Treasury of Tips for Writers" by Marvin Weisbord. It is a compilation of ideas by members of the "Society of Magazine Writers". Contact your local bookstore or order from Writers Digest, 22 East 12th St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45210. Price is $ 4.50.

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LIFETIME CARDS MAILED

The first group of beautifully inscribed cards have been mailed. If you have not received your card, please let us know.

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PLANS FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS...

Interviews with editors of numismatic publications will be one of the future columns of this N.L.G. newsletter. If there are any questions you would like to see answered, please forward them before May 15th.

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CAN YOU HELP???

Plans by members encompass everything from books to magazine articles. If you are contemplating anything that requires help, please enlist this newsletter for such requests.

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TELL THE WORLD YOU ARE A MEMBER!!!!!

Proudly place N.L.G. after your byline as the first step in alerting general numismatic readers that you belong to this very special organization.

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A NON-MEMBER OF N.L.G.

Have you ever heard of "Doodles Bernard"? He's the writer who almost won the Pulitzer Prize. (He was given the PU portion).

Doodles wanted to be a novelist badly. He has achieved his ambition --he's a bad novelist.

His nickname is the "Pharmacist". That is because all his writings are a drug on the market.

But success is finally on the road to Doodles' home. Doodles recently wrote something all the magazines would have accepted. It was a check for a year's subscription.

* * *

LAST MOMENT APPLICATIONS.....

Paul F. Rynearson
Russ Raulau
Vernon Brown
Nathan Goldstein II
Virginia Culver
James E. Charlton
Jerome Remick
Victor Snell
Dr. George Fuld

Ray Byrne
Gunter Kienast
CARL ALLENBAUGH
~~[illegible]~~
Mendel Peterson
CHARLES HOSKINS

LETTER FROM MAURICE M. GOULD

Several years ago, a small group of research numismatists and writers would meet informally at some of the major coin conventions and discuss the phases of the hobby which were of great interest to them.

It was hoped that this group would expand its activities, work together for the writer, researcher and for education in numismatics. I did contact a couple of them, but nothing came of it.

Since coming to California, on one of my visits to a coin club at Tustin, Lee Martin spoke to me about some of the ideas his group had regarding the formation of a Numismatic Literary Guild and gave me their thoughts on the subject. Their ideas coincided with mine to a great extent and I told him I would be glad to help in any way possible.

With the great increase in the number of collectors in our hobby, there has also been a marked number of authors, researchers and numismatic museums, which can all benefit by working together and when possible, making information and background material available to all.

This organization is not one of numbers, but one of professionals, except in a few unusual cases, who can benefit or benefit others with exchange of information and ideas, as the hobby will gain through our combined efforts.

There are so many directions in which we can turn, but it is too soon to say where the major efforts can be directed. We welcome suggestions from our members and you will be contacted through this newsletter each month.

I know we will all be proud of our beautiful membership cards, making us life members of N.L.G.

Whenever possible, use the letters NLG after your name, in stories, articles, etc. In this way we will place our initials and names before the collecting fraternity as a symbol of education in numismatics.

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MAURICE GOULD

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